

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00

EB-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EPG-02 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02

L-03 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AGR-05 PRS-01

CEA-01 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /109 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3699

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1603

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CIEC, EGEN

SUBJECT: RUMORS OF POSSIBLE NORTH-SOUTH SUMMIT

1. DURING PAST FEW DAYS, AMBASSADOR WELLS HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY SEVERAL NY REPS. (INDIA, IRAN AND YUGOSLAVIA) CONCERNING SUPPOSED SOUNDINGS FRENCH ARE MAKING AMONG G-19 REGARDING A NORTH-SOUTH SUMMIT MEETING LATER ON THIS YEAR. SUCH A PROPOSAL WOULD SUPPOSEDLY BE PUT FORWARD BY THE FRENCH SHOULD IT BECOME APPARENT AT THE CIEC MINISTERIAL MEETING THAT THE G-19 ARE VERY DISAPPOINTED AT THE RESULTS OF CIEC. THE COMPOSITION OF SUCH A SUMMIT IS TO BE G-8 PLUS G-19. THE QUESTION ASKED IS WHETHER THE US WOULD SUPPORT SUCH A SUMMIT. REPLY GIVEN WAS THAT WE HAD NEVER HEARD OF SUCH A PROPOSAL AND HENCE HAD NO COMMENTS TO OFFER.

2. FOREGOING APPEARS TO BE AN IDEA BEING FLOATED BY A NUMBER
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OF KEY G-19 DELEGATIONS HERE RATHER THAN A FRENCH INITIATIVE. IT HAS BEEN POINTED OUT THAT THE ANNOUNCEMENT AT CIEC OF SUCH A SUMMIT TO TAKE PLACE AT SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE WOULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS MAKING UP FOR ANY SHORTFALLS IN CONCRETE RESULTS AT CIEC. WHEN IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT A PROLONGATION OF THE CIEC NEGOTIATING SCENARIO AT A SUMMIT LEVEL MIGHT NOT BE SUCH AN ATTRACTIVE PROPOSAL, HASHMI (INDIA'S DEPUTY

PERM. REP.) EXPLAINED THAT A NORTH-SOUTH SUMMIT WOULD HAVE A DIFFERENT PURPOSE. AT THE PRESENT TIME, RICH COUNTRIES HAVE THEIR SUMMITS AND THE POOR COUNTRIES AS WELL HAVE THEIR PERIODIC SUMMITS (OR "BEGGARS OPERAS" AS HASHMI CALLED THEM). BUT THERE HAS NEVER BEEN AN OCCASION AT A SUMMIT LEVEL FOR THE RICH AND POOR COUNTRIES TO MEET - NOT TO NEGOTIATE BUT TO UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER'S POLITICAL PROBLEMS. HASHMI POINTED OUT THAT BILATERAL VISITS AND ACTIVITIES IN MULTILATERAL FORA DID NOT HAVE THE SAME IMPACT OR AURA OF SUMMITRY. HE ADMITTED THAT MANY OF THE BENEFITS OF SUMMITRY WOULD BE OPTICAL ONES BUT IMPORTANT NEVERTHELESS AS A MANIFESTATION OF THE LONG-TERM COMMITMENT OF POLITICAL WILL TO HELP THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

3. THE MOST RECENT VERSION (MAY 20) OF THE RICH-POOR SUMMIT WOULD HAVE IT TAKING PLACE A YEAR FROM NOW. COMPOSITION OF THIS MULTITUDINOUS SUMMIT IS A PROBLEM. OUR CONTACTS HAVE NOTED THAT THE G-19 IS READY TO GIVE UP WHAT ONE OF THEM CALLED THE "WHITE MAN'S BURDEN" VIS-A-VIS THE G-77. HOWEVER, DISBANDING THE G-19 AS A REPRESENTATIVE GROUP COULD CREATE MORE PROBLEMS THAN IT WOULD SOLVE. IN TERMS OF A SUMMIT, THE BLOC COUNTRIES WOULD SURELY TRY TO PARTICIPATE AS WELL IF WE MOVED AWAY FROM THE G-8 PLUS G-19 FORMULA.

4. THE APPROACHES DESCRIBED ABOVE CONCERNING A NORTH-SOUTH SUMMIT HAVE TAKEN PLACE OVER THE PAST WEEK AND OCCURRED DURING ABOUT SIX OR SEVEN SINGLE AND GROUP CONVERSATIONS. INDIA'S DEPUTY PERM. REP. HAS BEEN THE MOST ACTIVE IN RAISING THE SUBJECT HERE.

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COMMENT: IN ABSENCE OF DEPARTMENTAL GUIDANCE WE HAVE NOT QUERIED FRENCH HERE. WE WOULD NATURALLY BE GRATEFUL FOR ANY RELEVANT INFO EMBASSY PARIS OR OTHERS MAY HAVE.
LEONARD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 21-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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